

H.R. 2861. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3599. A communication from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extensions of Principal and Interest" (RIN0572-AB79) received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3600. A communication from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to the Republic of Panama; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3601. A communication from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rough Diamonds (Liberia) Sanctions Regulations, Rough Diamonds Control Sanctions" received on July 31, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3602. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Minerals Management Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oil and Gas and Sulphur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf" (RIN1010-AC89) received on July 31, 2003; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3603. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Montana Regulatory Program" (MT-023-FOR) received on July 31, 2003; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3604. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "List of Obsolete Rulings" (Rev. Rul. 2003-99) received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3605. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "RIC Refunded Bonds" (Rev. Rul. 2003-84) received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3606. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rev. Proc. 2003-69" received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3607. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revenue Ruling: Deductions Related to Compensatory Stock Options" (Rev. Rul. 2003-98) received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3608. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System

and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities" (RIN0938-AL20) received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3609. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program, Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Prospective Payment System for FY 2004 Rates" (RIN0938-AL95) received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3610. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Changes to the Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems and Fiscal Year 2004 Rates" (RIN0938-AL89) received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3611. A communication from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "12 C.F.R. Part 740, Accuracy of Advertising and Notice of Insured Status" (7535-01-U) received on July 29, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3612. A communication from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on Competitive Sourcing dated July 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3613. A communication from the Chair, Office of General Counsel, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Financing of Presidential Candidates and Nominating Conventions" received on July 31, 2003; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-3614. A communication from the Chair, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Financing of Presidential Candidates and Nominating Conventions" received on July 31, 2003; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

On request by Mr. WARNER and by unanimous consent, it was

Ordered, That the following nominations be discharged from further consideration by the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Foreign Relations:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Teresa M. Ressel, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, vice Edward Kingman, Jr.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Jeffrey A. Marcus, of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Belgium.

On further request by Mr. WARNER and by unanimous consent, it was

Ordered, That the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider en bloc be laid on the table; that the President be immediately notified of the confirmation of these nominations; and that the Senate return to legislative session.

Nominee: Jeffrey Alan Marcus.

Post: United States Ambassador to Belgium.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform

me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

1. Self—amount, date, donee: \$1,000, 2/21/03, Senator Judd Gregg Committee; \$1,000, 11/14/02, Terrell for Senate; \$1,000, 9/23/02, Forrester 2002; \$1,000, 9/17/02, Friends of Sessions Senate Committee; \$210,000, 7/08/02, Republican National State Elections Committee; \$1,083.68, 6/27/02, John Cornyn for Senate, Inc., In-kind contribution for expenses for in-home fund-raiser in excess of exempt amounts; (\$1,083.68), John Cornyn for Senate, Inc., Reimbursement received on 7/31/02 from John Cornyn for Senate, Inc., for 6/27/02 in-home fund-raiser; \$5,000, 5/01/02, NRCC Trust; \$1,000, 4/30/02, Friends of Jeb Hensarling (General election); \$1,000, 4/30/02, Cantor for Congress; \$2,000, 4/24/02, Thune for South Dakota (Primary and general elections); \$2,000, 2/06/02, John Cornyn for Senate, Inc.; \$1,000, 1/16/02, Friends of Jeb Hensarling (Primary election); \$1,000, 1/11/02, Friends of Katherine Harris; \$1,000, 1/11/02, Tim Hutchinson Senate Committee; \$5,000, 12/27/01, Republican Jewish Coalition PAC; \$5,000, (this contribution was inadvertently attributed to me when it should have been attributed to my wife Nancy C. Marcus. We have contacted KPAC to ask that they correct the error), 8/27/01, KPAC; \$20,000, 5/08/01, Republican National Committee; \$6,468.67, 4/05/01, Republican National Committee, Hosted fund-raiser luncheon, The Crescent Court Hotel, Garden Room, Dallas, TX 75201; (\$6,468.70), Reimbursement received on 4/01/03 from Republican National Committee for fund-raiser on 4/05/01; \$600.00, (the Republican National Committee (RNC) inadvertently reported these sums as contributions to the Republican Party when they were simply payments for hotel accommodations and parade tickets associated with the 2001 Presidential Inauguration. I have requested that the RNC correct their filing), 1/24/01, Republican National Committee State Elections Committee; \$10,879, the Republican National Committee (RNC) inadvertently reported these sums as contributions to the Republican Party when they were simply payments for hotel accommodations and parade tickets associated with the 2001 Presidential Inauguration. I have requested that the RNC correct this filing, 1/19/01, Republican National Committee, State Elections Committee; \$1,000, 9/06/00, Lazio 2000, Inc.; \$12,500, 6/19/00, Republican National Committee Presidential Trust; \$217,500, 6/19/00, Republican National State Elections Committee—Victory 2000; \$1,000, 2/10/00, Martin Frost Campaign Committee (General election); \$500, 2/07/00, Jon Newton for Congress; \$5,000, 1/25/00, DASHPAC; \$10,000, (the ultimate recipients of this contribution were: Arizona Republican Party, \$250; California Republican Party/Team California, \$1690; Illinois Republican Party, \$690; Massachusetts Republican State Congressional Committee, \$380; Michigan Republican State Committee, \$570; New Jersey Republican State Committee, \$470; New York Republican Federal Campaign Committee, \$1030; Ohio State Republican Party, \$660; Republican Federal Committee of Pennsylvania, \$730; Republican Party of Florida Federal Campaign Account, \$790; Republican Party of Iowa, \$220; Republican Party of Virginia, \$410; Washington State Republican party, \$350), 12/20/99, 1999 State Victory Fund Committee; \$1,000, 10/20/99, Friends of Sam Johnson; \$1,000, 10/20/99, Pete Sessions for Congress; \$1,000, 9/02/99, Martin Frost Campaign Committee (Primary election); \$1,000, 7/28/99, Regina Montoya Coggins for Congress; \$1,000, 3/29/99, Governor George W. Bush Presidential Exploratory Committee, Inc.; \$5,000, 1/22/99, Chancellor Media PAC;